

## Hospice Memorials

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I Love That Lady

(Mary "Web" Slaughter)

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Doris Norton



## Hospice News

Volume XXXV, Issue II Summer 2016  
Craven County Hospice

### Annual Spring Breakfast



On May 25, Craven County Hospice held our annual Spring Breakfast at the New Bern Convention Center. The fund raising event supports hospice efforts throughout the Craven County service area which includes most of the surrounding counties. It enables our agency to provide up to 6 hours of respite per week to families that request it. Respite is not covered under insurance so it is paid by our Foundation and we are proud that we are able to offer it to all of our families.

This year, there were 32 sponsored tables with about 275 people attending. After an invocation by Reverend Angel Lorton and encouraging words from Dr. Robert Fisher, the guest speaker, Mrs. Linda Stauch, gave an enlightening talk regarding life in general and how to make the most of it. Mrs. Stauch made several important points starting with how important planning is. She said planning is key in all aspects of life, but in relation to hospice, it's especially important; an insight she

gained from personal experience. Planning affords the family the opportunity to have help when it's needed so that they can spend precious time with the patient. When a patient is terminally ill, the family goes into survival mode, doing what is necessary to get by. Yet, this should be the time to spend enjoying life, so pre-planning and making sure you have your Advance Directives in place is important.

Mrs. Stauch advised that you educate yourself about end of life decisions such as a living will and health care power of attorney. She also stressed that you need to communicate these decisions so they can be carried out, and involve your family in these decisions.

Mrs. Stauch spoke about remembering the good times, telling the family stories and enjoying each other. She mentioned how important it is to show respect and dignity, and to celebrate life. Mrs. Stauch affirmed what hospice is really about. She was very informative, yet very uplifting and motivational.

This year's Spring Breakfast hosted a record crowd. The guests generously donated funds to help provide the support needed by those in the last days of their lives. We want to thank everyone who helped us achieve our goal of surpassing last year's donations. That will go along way in helping the families of patients of Craven County Hospice.



When you make a memorial gift or donation to Craven County Hospice you are ultimately helping patients and families receive compassionate care when they need it most. These donations go towards supplies, medications and medical equipment that are not otherwise covered. Thank you for choosing Craven County Hospice.

Please make the check payable to **CCHD- Foundation**. PO Drawer 12610, New Bern, NC 28561



Craven County Hospice  
PO Drawer 12610 2818 Neuse Blvd  
New Bern, NC 28561

Hospice is a coordinated palliative and supportive care (physical, psychological, social, and spiritual) for dying persons and their families. Services are provided in the home by an interdisciplinary team of professionals and volunteers. Bereavement care is available to the family.



## It's strawberry season! Strawberry Sandwiches

### Ingredients

2 cups fresh strawberries, hulled  
1/3 cup plus 2 tablespoons sugar  
4 tablespoons unsalted butter, at room temperature  
4 slices firm but fresh sandwich bread, brioche, or baguette



Source: RealSimple.com

### Directions

Slice the strawberries crosswise. Place them in a medium bowl and sprinkle with 1/3 cup of the sugar. Butter the bread slices, then slice them in half and sprinkle with the remaining sugar. Place the bread on serving plates and spoon the berries on top.

# Hospice Stories – Voices of Conscience

## Veteran finds new life as Hospice volunteer

Dave Pearce finds his 20 years in the Army helpful as he works with patients of Lower Cape Fear Hospice who live in Brunswick County. More than half the Hospice patients he visits served in the military.

"I get the veterans to talk," he said. That includes soliciting information from the veterans about their service. Sometimes he'll go online and look up their units. Occasionally he finds pictures of them when they were younger. "It gives them something to talk about," he said.

"Friends and families don't know how to talk to somebody who's dying," he said. "They're still interested in the same things. If they like sports, you talk sports."

He and his wife, Janey, moved to St. James in 2005. Tired of playing golf, he spotted a notice about training for Hospice volunteers and decided to try it.

"My wife said, 'You're too empathetic, you care too much,'" he recalled. "But you have to do that to be a good volunteer."

Laurie Taylor, Vice President of fund development at Hospice, praised Dave and Janey for their work on fundraisers. "They work tirelessly on silent auctions, making signs and organizing the plethora of items that are donated to a nonprofit," she wrote in an email.

Taylor also praised Dave's work with Hospice patients.

"Dave has been a patient volunteer for years, going to hospice patients' homes and visiting with them and their families for weeks and months," she wrote. "He sometimes has four or five patients."

Pearce, 71, said that as a Hospice volunteer, he gets to talk to a wide array of people and learn about their lives. "You know about people in walks of life you'd never be exposed to," he said.

He visits people in houses with no running water, and with "trailers so deep in the woods, they send a family member to come out to the road and guide you in."

"It's so enriching," he said. "Yeah, I do care too much."

Extract of an article by Si Cantwell, StarNews Staff, Wilmington, NC, reprinted with permission



# Volunteers

In May, we held our two day hospice training course and brought in seven new volunteers. They are Robert Nenni, Karen Norman, Bobbi Fisher, Dr. Bart Spano, Meghan Turner, Kathy Fisher, and Jane Revels. They are ready to help and will be great additions to our wonderful staff. Welcome!



We want to wish Elizabeth (Beth) Junak a fond farewell as she begins her new job as Director of Nursing at the Onslow County Health Department. Beth is a Registered Nurse and has her Six Sigma Yellow Belt Certification making her an excellent agent of change. Here at Craven County Health Department for the past nineteen years, she has held several jobs and has been an important part of our Hospice in many ways.

She has been a Home-Health Nurse, Hospice Nurse, the Director for Home Health-Hospice, Executive Director of the Craven County Health Department Foundation, Quality Improvement Coordinator and Public Information Officer for the Health Department. She also served on the Craven County Area Agency on Aging along with being the Co-Chair for Craven County Coastal Coalition for Substance Abuse Prevention Task Force. Beth was an important part of our organization with many years of expertise and we will tremendously miss her smiling face.

# Thank You!!

Craven County Health Department Foundation, Inc.

**Annual Spring Breakfast 2016**

**Fundraiser for Craven County Hospice**

Thank you to the businesses and individuals who so generously offered their time, talent and financial support to make the Spring Breakfast a success.

**Sponsors**

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**Acknowledgements**

Thee Catering Company

Pinecone Home and Garden

Proceeds from this event will be earmarked for the Hospice Respite Aide Program.  
Craven County Health Department Foundation, Inc. is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) corporation.

# Happenings at Hospice

This summer, Craven County Hospice will join with the CarolinaEast Health System to present a free screening of the Frontline documentary, "Being Mortal". It follows surgeon Atul Gawande as he explores the relationships doctors have with patients who are nearing the end of life. The film investigates the practice of caring for the dying and shows how doctors are often untrained, ill-suited, and uncomfortable talking about death with their patients. This film and book have been widely talked about and we are looking forward to bringing it to the Craven County community.

Also with our partners at CarolinaEast and Cotten Funeral Home, we will present the Hospice Foundation of America Program "Managing Conflict-Finding Meaning".

